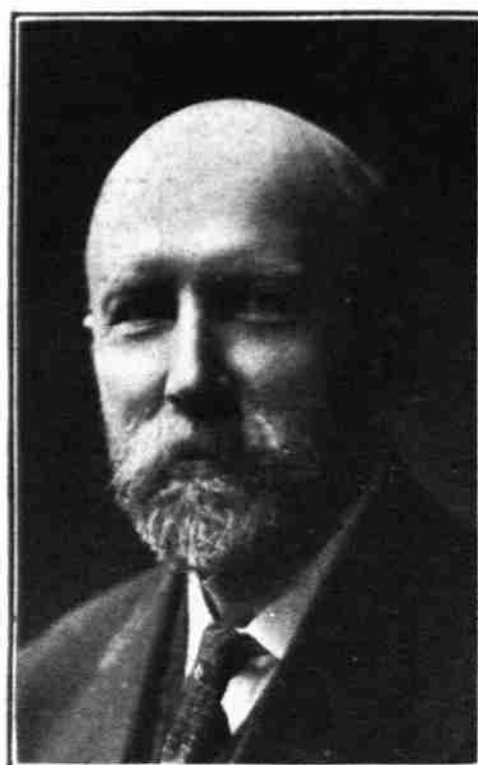


Booker T. Washington, LL.D.

Principal of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute,
Tuskegee, Ala.

An Appreciation by Rev. Hollis Burke Frissell, LL.D.,
Principal, Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va.

GENERAL ARMSTRONG was accustomed to say that if Hampton Institute had only sent out Booker Washington it would have paid back to the American people all the money that had ever been contributed to the school. When one considers what



Hollis B. Frissell, LL.D.

this one man has been able to accomplish for his race and for the country there is reason to feel that General Armstrong's statement was correct.

Booker Taliaferro Washington was born a slave in one of the western counties of Virginia. In his autobiography he tells the story of how he was called with the other slaves in front of the mansion house to hear the news of the emancipation. Not long since he met a son of his former master, who showed to him a list of the property of his former owner. This list contained, among other things, pigs, horses, cows, with their valuation, and also the name of *Booker*, valued at \$400.

In his early days he had the advantage of being trained by a thrifty New England woman who, as he tells us in his autobiography, was a very strict disciplinarian, and who gave to him certain ideas of industry and order which have been of untold value to him through his whole life.

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In order to secure money to meet the necessities of his family, he went to the coal mines in West Virginia. There he heard of the Hampton School where a Negro boy could work his own way to an education. With a little money that he had obtained he made his way to Richmond; there his little store became exhausted and he was obliged to help load a vessel, sleeping at night on the sidewalks, in order to secure the necessary funds to bring him down to the Hampton School.

His insufficient preparation and his poor clothes made his general appearance unfortunate when he arrived at the school. It at first seemed doubtful whether he would be received, but the lady principal, in order to test him, told him to sweep and dust one of the rooms in the executive building. This he

did so well as to make her feel that he ought to have a chance. He worked his way through Hampton, showing such earnestness and capacity that General Armstrong felt that the very difficult task of dealing with the Indians at Hampton might wisely be committed to his hands. He remained in charge of them for a year and was most successful in dealing with them. At the end of that time there came a call for help from Alabama. A request was made by officials of the state to



RESIDENCE OF DR. WASHINGTON, TUSKEGEE, ALA.

General Armstrong to send them a white man to take charge of a normal school for the blacks. General Armstrong wrote to ask them to take a colored man instead, and suggested Booker Washington. They followed his suggestion and Booker Washington went to Alabama to start the Tuskegee School. With two small buildings and a very limited appropriation from the state he commenced the Tuskegee school, which now accommodates eighteen hundred students, has a corps of more than one hundred and fifty workers, and has sent out into the South thousands of young men and women who have taught their people lessons of industry and self-help.

Mr. Washington's book, "Up from Slavery," which has been translated into many languages, tells this wonderful story of his life. This slave boy has become the most distinguished Negro in the world. He was entertained by Queen Victoria and at homes of the nobility in England; he has received degrees from leading